#### LETTERS

Employees are invited to write letters of general interest on work-related topics. Anonymous letters will not be printed. We reserve the right to edit letters or not to accept letters for publication. Send your letters to the *Reach*, B3-30, or to \*Hanford Reach on e-mail. Letters are limited to 300 words, and must include your name, company, work group and location. Opinions expressed are those of the author and not of DOE-RL, ORP or their contractors.

## **VPPPA** presenter not mentioned

In the article, "Fluor Hanford hosts highly successful VPPPA conference" (*Hanford Reach*, May 27), an important presenter at the conference — Joel Rivers, Fluor Federal Services construction manager for the RPP Project — was not mentioned. Thank you Joel!

**Dan Palmer** Fluor Federal Services



# Higgins named FFTF Employee of the Quarter



**Higgins** 

Kathy Higgins was named Fast Flux Test Facility Employee of the Quarter for the first quarter of calendar vear 2003 because of her contribution to the success of the FFTF Closure Project. Higgins is assigned to the Planning and Scheduling group in the Business Management Office, but also provides vital support for the following groups: FFTF Maintenance, Asset Management, Production Control Office, Fuel Offload Project and the Safety Awareness Council. "Kathy is a skilled employee, which is why she is called

upon to support so many organizations," said Pat Schweiger, project manager for Fuel Offload and Production Control. "She is not afraid to learn new skills and take on new challenges."

Higgins contributed to the development of an integrated schedule for planning work activities at the FFTF. This master schedule includes all the links, priorities, activities and milestones for the facility so that these items can be seen on one schedule. After the integrated schedule was adopted, Higgins continued to improve the usefulness of

this tool. She developed unique filters for 10-day, 30-day, and 60-day reviews of upcoming work. She also developed an improved presentation format for use in the project review meetings.

Higgins is a certified Nuclear Materials Custodian and she helps maintain the Detailed Refueling Plan Flowsheet and Examination and Decontamination Services Work Plan. She also inspects nuclear packaging and provides updates using the Nuclear Material Inventory Transfers Process. No fuel leaves the FFTF without her co-signature. "Kathy is a distinguished employee who has demonstrated exceptional abilities and dedication to her job," said Schweiger.



#### Library tour set for June 5

Hanford Technical Library staff members will conduct a tour of the library and discuss services that are available to you in the library and at your desk. The tour will take place Thursday, June 5, 8:15 to 9:15 a.m. in the library lobby, located in the Consolidated Information Center on the Washington State University Tri-Cities campus in Richland. For more information, contact Patti Cleavenger at 372-7435 or at patricia.cleavenger@pnl.gov.

#### **Audubon Society showing of 'Winged Migration'**

The Lower Columbia Audubon Society and Sony Picture Classics present the Academy Award nominee for best documentary, "Winged Migration," at 7 p.m. on June 6 and 7 at the Battelle Auditorium. A matinee showing will take place at 3 p.m. on June 7. Tickets for evening showings are \$5 each, with children 6 and under free. The matinee showing will have tickets available at \$10 for a family or \$5 for individuals. Tickets may be purchased at the Bookworm in Kennewick and Richland or at the door.

### S cholarship recipients at ASQ and AQP meeting

The June 10 dinner meeting of the local American Society for Quality and the Association for Quality

Calendar continued on next page.



### CALENDAR **continued**

and Participation organizations will focus on this year's scholarship recipients. Awards will be presented to two Richland High School seniors — \$1,000 to Catherine Sampson, and \$750 to Sahar Zuberi, daughter of Shakir Zuberi, who works for CH2M HILL Hanford Group. The special guest speaker will be Saundra Hill, superintendent of the Pasco School District, who will talk briefly about "Quality in the Pasco School District." The meeting will be held at the Shilo Inn, Richland, with check-in and networking starting at 5:30 p.m., the buffet dinner starting at 6, and the presentation starting at 7. The cost is \$16 for AQP and ASQ members, \$18 for non-members, or \$5 for the awards and presentations only. Make your reservations by June 5 by calling 372-1442, sending an email message to lynn\_l\_gates@rl.gov or registering via the AQP chapter's Web site at http:// www.3-cities.com/~gates/AQPQuest.htm.

#### **Donate blood in June at two locations**

Hanford workers have two opportunities to donate blood in June. On June 11, the American Red Cross bloodmobile will be in the PFP parking lot from 9:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. To schedule an appointment to give blood, contact Patrick Jenkins by e-mail or call 373-6221. On June 12, the blood drawing will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Federal Building. Registration will take place in the lobby, with the drawing in the bloodmobile in the parking lot north of the building. To schedule an appointment, call the American Red Cross at (800) 787-9691. Walk-ins are always welcome.

#### Conference on plutonium in Albuquerque

The Science 2003 Conference — The Plutonium Futures — will be held July 6-10 in Albuquerque, N.M. The third in a series, this conference will provide an international forum for presenting and discussing current research on physical and chemical properties and environmental interactions of plutonium and other actinide elements. Register

before June 5 and save \$100. For more information and to register, visit http://www.lanl.gov/

pu2003.

#### CLASSES



#### **PROTRAIN** offers software training

Microsoft Project 2000 (\$199 per day or \$348 for both days)

- Level 1 June 8
- Level 2 June 9

### **Primavera Project Planning** (\$425 per day)

- P-3 602 June 23
- P-3 603 June 24
- P-3 604 June 25

### Crystal Reports 8 (\$249 per day or \$448 for both days)

- Introduction June 23
- Advanced June 24

#### Word 2002 XP (\$159 per day)

- Beginning June 2
- Introduction June 3
- Advanced —June 4
- Upgrading to Windows XP June 27 (\$249)
- **Upgrading to Office XP** June 26 (\$169)

For more information, contact Sarah at 375-0414 or at sarah@protrainsys.com. Group discounts are available.

#### Skills Lab offers "Painless Punctuation", others

The Skills Enhancement Lab will offer three, fourhour classes to help improve your writing skills. The following classes are all offered 7:30-11:30 a.m. in Room 31 of the Administration Building at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center:

• **Painless Punctuation** — Thursday, June 5. Learn to cure comma-itis: use colons and semi-colons properly; handle exhausted apostrophes; tackle the lowly hyphen; review fragments, comma splices, and run-ons; and review must-know key rules.

Classes continued on next page.



- Goof-Proofing your Grammar Thursday, June 19. Learn to recognize and correct the most frequent grammatical goofs.
- Successful Business and Technical Writing Thursday, June 26 or Thursday, July 17. This light-hearted workshop teaches the essentials of successful business and technical writing through relevant exercises. Suggested prerequisites are "Painless Punctuation" and "Goof-Proofing Your Grammar." There is no charge for any of these popular sessions, but classes fill quickly, so reserve a seat now

#### **Building Leadership Skills Seminar set for June 6**

by calling Kathy Dechter at 376-3250.

The Building Leadership Skills Seminar Series is sponsoring Joe Estey, founder of Prolepsis Training, who will present "Living in the Present, as if the Future has Already Occurred!" The seminar will be held Friday, June 6, at the Tri-Cities Coliseum Founders' Club. Registration and breakfast begin at 7:30 a.m., the seminar is from 8 a.m. to noon, and lunch and networking are from noon until 1 p.m. The cost is \$40 for members of National Management Association, American Society for Quality, Association for Quality and Participation, Leadership Tri-Cities, WSU Business Advisory Council and the Tri-City Herald. The cost is \$50 for other attendees. Make your reservation by calling 736-1929 by June 3.

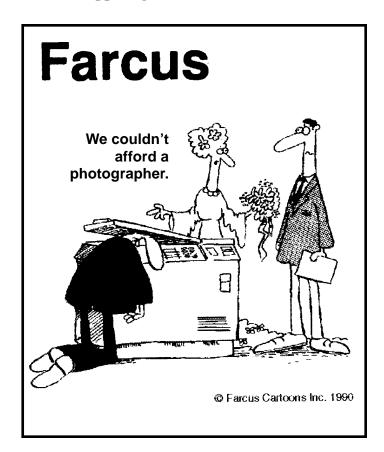
#### **Effective Presentations offered on June 23**

"Effective Presentations" is an eight-hour course that is ideal for anyone wanting to improve their communication skills including trainers, managers, team leaders and committee members. This course will be presented on June 23 by Joe Estey at the Hanford Training Center. The cost is \$180 per person. To register, contact Joan Howard at 946-2102 or at jhoward@energxhanford.com or Lynn Collins at 946-9654 or at lcollins@energx hanford.com.

#### **Personal Protection Safety Measures**

The Northwest Public Power Association is presenting "Personal Protection Safety Measures," a two-day class at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center July 29-30. This course will cover the physiology of electrical shock and treatment; the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's mandated electrical requirements; the role and use of NFPA 70E; and over 600-volt applications. Register before June 27 and pay \$1,095. The cost is \$1,145 for registrations received after June 27. To register, contact Wendy Carlson at (360) 254-0109 or visit

www.nwppa.org. �



Features continued on next page.

HANFORD REACH Page 19 June 2, 2003



Vanpool ads are run for two weeks. Ads must be resubmitted to run in subsequent issues of the *Hanford Reach*. The deadline for submission is Thursday, 10 days prior to publication.

Day and Zimmermann Protection Technology Hanford reminds employees to wear their badges. Vanpool and carpool drivers are responsible for ensuring their passengers are badged. If a passenger forgets his or her security badge, access is denied at the barricade. The individual is required to go to a badging station for a temporary badge or go home to retrieve the badge.

#### **RICHLAND**

Spacious seating is still available for several 8x9 riders to 200W aboard Van No. 117. Roundtrip from parking lot adjacent to 1019 Wright in Richland. The cost is less than that of a daily commute for one person in his or her own personal vehicle. Call or send an e-mail message to **Gary Bush** at 372-2531. 6/2

Two riders needed for Vanpool No. 216, 8x9, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m., with door-to-door delivery from Richland to 200E. Van starts on the south end of Jadwin, winds its way up Thayer and Williams, over to George Washington Way and out to 2750-E and 2704-HV (only if rider is a backup driver). Call **Michelle Calvert** at 376-5400 or **Kip George** at 373-7399. 6/2

Van No. 153 is seeking two riders. Join a van with comfortable reclining seats. Picks up in the Willowbrook, Meadow Springs and Hills West areas, including Albertson's on Gage and Leslie. Drops off in 200 E, including 2704-HV. Call **Pam Powell** at 373-6200 or send an e-mail message. 6/2

Van No. 190 seeks several riders. Ideal for workers on 4x10s or exempts who routinely arrive early or stay late. Currently leaves the vanpool lot at the Richland Wye at 6 a.m., and picks up at the north end of the Training Center parking lot by the Richland Airport. Willing to negotiate additional stops at the Waste Treatment Plant construction site, 200E and 600N. Contact **Derek** at 376-9018; or **Jim, Joe or Kenny** at 373-2687 or 373-2845. 5/27

Vanpool No. 195, low-cost route to 200E, has three openings. 8x9s, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Starts at Mowry Square Condominiums (close to 7-Eleven at Jadwin). Picks up along George Washington Way, Jadwin north of Van Giesen, 7-Eleven by George Washington Way, and 2440 Stevens south parking lot. Stops at 274-AW, 2750-E, CSB and 2704-HV locations. Call **Jon Renholds** at 373-4248, **Betty Zscheile** at 373-7282 or **Leona Aamot** at 372-3769. 5/27

Vanpool to 200E needs several riders, 8x9. Rate as low as \$33.50 per month. Leaves former Hanford bus lot (across from 2440 Stevens Center) at 6:25 a.m. and drops off at 2750-E and MO-276 (behind 2750-E). Arrives at bus lot at 5 p.m. on Mondays through Thursdays and at 4 p.m. on Fridays worked. Contact **Dave Hedengren** at 373-5094. 5/27 ◆